

Making Tomorrow's World

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THE NEW ECONOMIC IRELAND



Bray, Ireland. —The plowed field takes the place of the grazing ranch. Landlordism dies, though by slow degrees and painfully. "The last thought being of a bargain to be made." Progressive agriculture, including cooperation, rural credit, waste transportation, small local industries and well-directed education—without which there can be no progressive agriculture of the best kind—comes to Ireland. The singing and dancing Gaelic league, with its revival of the old and happy Irish language, breathes life and merriment. All these are making for the new Ireland.

Land Situation Improving.

The spade is ever mightier than the sword. Impassioned oratory in Rockville street is futile compared with the use of fertilizer in the field. Ireland is pre-eminently agricultural and the chief emphasis in the island's renaissance has rightly been upon the use of the land. Progress has been made toward the transfer of ownership of land from the absentee landlord to the resident peasant. Progress has been made in the establishment of free sale, fixity of tenure and fair rent. Considerable progress has been made in blotting out the plague to which Western Ireland has given a name which is also a picture, rural "congested districts." These things have been accomplished by the Irish Agricultural Organization society, led by that disinterested patriot, Sir Horace Plunkett, by the government de-

partment of agriculture and by other agencies.

Two-Thirds of People Farmers.

Land is Ireland's chief source of revenue. In a population of four millions the rural classes, tenants and farm laborers and their families, are two-thirds. This population depends directly for its daily life upon the profit from fifteen million acres of cultivable land. In continental Europe the peasant, driven by poverty from the land, goes to the factory in the town. Excepting in Belfast, with its linen, and in Dublin, with its beer, and some smaller places along eastern Ireland, there are no Irish factories of consequence. The Irish peasant who can not pick up a living in the fields goes not to a factory in the town but to America.

A century ago one-third of the population of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland was in Ireland, today only ten per cent. Within sixty years one-half the population of Ireland has emigrated to the United States. In the last ten years the evil of overmuch emigration has slightly abated, thanks to many good influences. It is a curious fact that while the proportion of British emigrants from Great Britain to countries within the British empire was 50 per cent during the last twelve months, barely

27 per cent of the emigrants from Ireland remained under the British flag.

Sir Horace Plunkett's Crusade.

Improvement in the land situation, besides checking emigration, has promoted the economic and social welfare of the people. Wise use of self-help and cooperation, under the statesmanlike leadership of Sir Horace Plunkett, is making a new Ireland, agriculturally. Returning from ranch life in the United States in 1883, instead of entering politics as the great social sphere of activity, this great Irishman devoted himself to the social and economic regeneration of rural Ireland. Around him gathered men of all creeds and every party. Catholic bishops and Presbyterian preachers, Unionists and Nationalists, landlords and tenants, soon enlisted in the work. It was difficult, if not impossible, to make a theological or even a political controversy about better bacon and more eggs.

Self-Help and Cooperation Winning.

"Self-help was first in the program. Education must precede self-help. You can not have a nation without the elements of a nation," said another great Irishman, Thomas Davis, "and one of the first elements of a nation is an educated democracy." As everywhere education was slow and difficult. The Irishman, not different from others, preferred to be flattered rather than to be bettered. Gradually, however, self-help doctrines had their fruits in better agricultural methods, in larger crop yields and in more desirable rural life.

Technical Education Bearing Fruit.

Close akin to the efforts of the cooperative societies has been the promotion of technical education by the state. This work, carried on by the government's Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland, is, in a way, similar to the work of the American Agricultural colleges and Experiment stations, except that it is broader, not confining itself to "agriculture and the mechanic arts." It teaches the farmer and laborer, it trains in its schools for business, commerce, agriculture and technical pursuits. It goes further and seeks an industrial revival by encouragement of new local factories. The department's work, also hampered by difficulties, shows considerable progress. Commercial enterprises and an industrial spirit are appearing in the smaller towns as well as developing in the larger centers, Dublin, Belfast and Cork. The manufacture of bacon, of woolen goods, of lace, has begun in villages where ten years ago surplus labor, unemployed was driven to foreign lands.

Dear Transportation Heavy Handicap.

With created or revived local industries comes consideration of better transportation. Farm produce and industrial products pay three per cent of their value to reach a market in Canada and fifteen per cent in Ireland. It costs four dollars a ton to get eggs from France to London, six dollars a ton from Denmark, and twenty-five dollars a ton from Galway, Ireland. This condition an Irish parliament may be expected to seek to remedy. Just now it blocks economic development.

"Social and Moral Uplift."

Nor are the Irish at home forgetful of the higher things in life. They are creating a new literature, they are developing social life, gracious as always in the vertiginous standards of the Irish peasant in a gentleman— and promoting higher standards of morality. In all the constructive movements in Ireland the religious question looms large. For religion to the real Irishman, Protestant or Catholic, is not an argument, but an institution. Quoting again Professor Kettle: "It seems to us as reasonable to prepare children for their moral life by excluding religion as to prepare them for their physical life by removing the most important lobe of their brains."

Self Help by Mutual Help.

With this material and in this wise is the new Ireland in the making. To the Englishman "home" means his own independent and comfortable corner, to the Irishman "home" means the cottage of his birth, the social order, the traditional and familiar environment. This explains the corner grocery in Ireland, but it also explains the community or clan spirit which is an all-powerful aid toward cooperation. And the first and last principle of the apostles of economic regeneration in Ireland is "Self-help by mutual help." The new Ireland is to be made of all the old Ireland, the Orange Flag and the Green Flag in combination unto all the island's good.

has been enrolled in some form of cooperative society.

Buying and Selling Done Jointly.

The most general form of cooperation in the dairy society. Of these societies there are now more than four hundred. Next in number are the rural banks, which number more than two hundred. Other cooperative organizations make joint purchases for farmers, breed cattle, promote local industries, particularly lace-making, sell poultry and eggs, grow bees and market honey, sell butter and transact wholesale business for the country societies. The central society and some others are aided financially by the government department of agriculture, agricultural committees and county councils.

Cooperation Stopping Emigration.

The result shows in economic betterment and in a more wholesome rural life. A single instance of the first result is that the yield of butter per gallon of milk has constantly increased during the last ten years and that Irish butter now sells readily in London in competition with its great rival, butter from Denmark. From certain counties where the cooperative societies have done their best work emigration has almost ceased. Much has been done toward improving the condition of the cottages and by establishing libraries, sane amusements and helpful recreation in the villages. The Gaelic league has done good service here. "Better be quarreling than be lonesome," runs the Irish proverb. The new village conditions would banish quarreling without substituting solitude, accomplishing this result by discouraging drunkenness and preventing emigration, the two giant evils of the Ireland of yesterday.

Another happy result is the moral discipline already making itself felt. This has strengthened individual energy and the wise use of cooperation has stimulated individual effort, developing a taste for work by increasing the produce of labor. However great the material advantages of cooperation, particularly the cooperative credit system—by which money is lent at low rates for reproductive work—the educational results are yet more important.

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SOME PUMPKINS

W. L. Nelson, Assistant Secretary Missouri State Board of Agriculture.

Missouri is "some pumpkins." Each year the Missouri farmer cuts a half billion dollar melon.

"Some pumpkins" in corn! Missouri will this year harvest more than a million bushels of corn to the county—and there are 114 counties in the state. Despite the discount that drought demanded, we are still "some pumpkins" in corn production. Preliminary figures by the United States Department of Agriculture credit Missouri with more barrels of corn than Kansas has bushels—and it takes five bushels to make one barrel. The Missouri corn crop of 1912 was about a quarter of a billion bushels. That is two states in the Union—Illinois and Iowa—grow more. Five Missouri counties each grew more than 5,000,000 bushels of corn, while seven others grew more than 4,000,000 bushels each. These twelve counties together grew one-fourth as much corn as the entire state of Indiana, practically the same as either Michigan or Wisconsin, more than one-fourth as much as either Kansas or Nebraska, one-third as much as the whole state of Texas, one-half as Oklahoma and more than all Arkansas.

The combined output of corn grown in twenty states of the Union is less than that of these dozen Missouri counties. One Missouri county alone with production of 9,173,000 bushels, grew more corn than any one of sixteen states. Argentina, that vast country of South America, grew but one-fifth more bushels of corn than Missouri. Had all our corn, in the ear, been loaded on carts it would have made a train extending from New York to San Francisco and Illinois a side track from St. Louis to Kansas City. The corn, it made two Missouri moonshiners, of which the state last year manufactured more than 25,000,000—enough for every fellow to give Old Missouri a "putt"—would have enabled the whole world to smoke the pipe of peace. Combined in one ear, the corn would have served to bridge the Atlantic, or hollowed out it would have provided a traffic tube for continent-to-continent trains.

"Some pumpkins" in wheat! The 1912 Missouri wheat crop amounted to more than 25,000,000 bushels—more, according to preliminary figures by the United States Department of Agriculture, than that of any other state as much wheat as was grown in Iowa. This is more than twice either Oklahoma or Oregon, both heralded as wonder wheat states. It is more than three times as much as was grown in the entire state of Texas, where the wagon haul to railroad is often as long as the railroad haul in Missouri. It is more than three times as much as is grown in California, where the millionaire goes far, and almost thirty times as much as is grown in Arkansas, where many so far hear. It is more than was grown in Alberta last year; and in this same Missouri land of banyan days and bluegrass is grown a wheat crop equal to one-sixth that of all Canada. Had the Missouri wheat crop of the present year been made into flour and the flour converted into loaves of bread of the standard size, the output would have been enough loaves, if placed end to end in a single row, to have extended from the earth to the moon and more than half way back. If made into biscuit—but why invite everybody to breakfast? This year seven Missouri counties each grew more than a million bushels of wheat. The wheat production of any one of these seven counties equaled that of any one of a dozen states, while the combined wheat production of these same counties equaled the production of any one of twenty-five states. This year any one of half a dozen Missouri counties grew enough wheat to have provided one loaf of bread for each of the 25,000,000 inhabitants of the United States.

"Some pumpkins" in oats! The Missouri oat crop of 1912 was approximately 39,000,000 bushels. Figures showing yield for the present year are not yet available. The threshed crop was somewhat short, the yield from thousands of acres being used as breakfast food for aristocratic representatives of the live stock world. So used, it puts on the pounds and commands premium prices.

"Some pumpkins" in hay! With a hay harvest of 4,143,000 tons in 1912 Missouri, according to government figures, was surpassed by but three states—New York, Iowa and Pennsylvania. The Missouri crop was practically the same as the combined output of all the South Central States—Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, and Okla-

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ALL COATS

---FOR---

Women, Misses and Children

Half Price,

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Marshall, Mo.

The Store That Sells Wooltex.

saddle horses, the best in the world. In number and quality of mules we stand at the head—the only safe place.

"Some pumpkins" in peaches, melons and berries! This year from the peach belt of Southern Missouri almost 1,000 car loads of peaches were shipped, most of them coming from two counties. One Southwest Missouri county ships annually 1,000 car loads of watermelons. From a few counties in Southwest Missouri strawberry shipments amount to 500 car loads per season—enough to make every steadybody shiver with longing.

"Some pumpkins" in cotton! Missouri is not ordinarily counted a cotton state, yet no other state grows as much cotton or wheat as is grown in Missouri also grows as much superior quality cotton. Should Missouri cotton fields fall there would be a shrinkage in "all wool" garments.

"Some pumpkins" in people! "No state produces a better crop than its inhabitants." No state has a better citizenship than Missouri. Each year we are growing a better crop of state pride. As Missourians, we are standing up for our native land "whether born there or not."

It is said that the merchants in Milwaukee, who make a business of furnishing homes for newly married couples, estimated that the dearth of marriages resulting from the new Wisconsin eugenics law is costing them nearly \$10,000 a day. Only five marriage licenses have been issued in that city since the new law went into effect on January 1st. Previous to that time the county clerk issued on an average of twenty-five to thirty licenses per day. Dealers estimate that such newly married couples invested \$200 in furniture, groceries, fuel and rentals. Now then, harken for the knock against the eugenics law.

Mr. and Mrs. Archibald Hancock were the guests last week of Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Scott at their home on East Arrow.

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